



# FORT CASPAR MUSEUM Newsletter

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### Fort Caspar Museum Has a New Webpage!

The City of Casper launched a new and (hopefully!) easier-to-use website which includes a fancy new webpage for FCM! Check it out at:

[fortcasparwyoming.com](http://fortcasparwyoming.com)

## CASPER USO SHOW HONORS VETERANS

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH • 6:00 TO 11:00 PM**

In honor of our nation's Veterans and active military personnel, Fort Caspar Museum, the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum, and ARTCORE have teamed up to host a vintage USO Show featuring cocktails, dinner, and dancing.

Join us on November 8th at the Nerd Gas Hangar at the Casper-Natrona County Airport. The program begins with a cocktail hour, followed by dinner inspired by the meal served on Thanksgiving day at the Casper Army Air Field in 1944. After dinner, enjoy the USO Show featuring

tribute acts portraying "The Andrews Sisters," "Bob Hope," and "Marilyn Monroe." Following the show, dance to the music of the nine-piece swing band, The Hot Tomatoes.

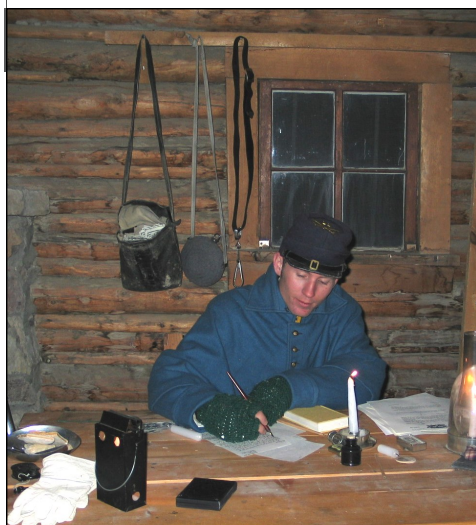
Attendees are encouraged to wear vintage clothing, and Veterans may wear their uniform, patch, or hat. Otherwise, casual attire is acceptable.

**Tickets must be purchased by noon on Nov. 4th.**  
The ticket cost is \$20 for Veterans or \$40 for a Veteran



Denver-based "Reveille3" is an Andrews Sisters tribute act.

couple; \$30 each for everyone else. You may purchase tickets in person using cash or check at (continued on page 4)



Private Con Trumbull tries to enlist young Fort visitors during *Candlelight* 2012.

## CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS AT THE FORT

This year's *Candlelight Christmas at the Fort* event will be held on both Friday, December 5th and Saturday, December 6th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. *Candlelight* has become one of the most anticipated holiday events in Casper.

We will again open the fort buildings at night and light them with candles. Visitors will get to interact with 19th-century soldiers, pioneers, and mountain men on the

fort grounds. The Sutler's Store will be selling period souvenirs.

Come inside the Museum to warm up with free hot chocolate and cookies and enjoy period music and craft making for the kids. Tour the museum galleries and do some Christmas shopping in our gift store.

This is a FREE event, and all are welcome.

**FCMA Board**

Chair  
Con Trumbull

Vice Chair  
Patti Wood Finkle

Treasurer  
Steve Dacus

Secretary  
Diane Mattern

Bruce Berst \* Allen Crowder  
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Curator of Education  
Trey Corkern

Visitor Services/Newsletter  
Anne Holman

Education Technician  
Jayme McGoonan

Front Desk  
Debra Webb \* Megan Royer

# Three New Exhibits

## Caspar Collins: Soldier and Artist

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge in July 2015, FCM will exhibit *The Artwork of Caspar Collins*.

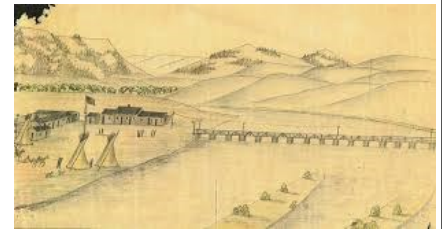
Controversy exists regarding whether or not young Caspar Collins was the actual artist of several of the pieces attributed to him. By placing examples of artwork known to be Caspar's by some of the works in dispute, visitors will be able to come to their own conclusions on the issue.

Fort Caspar Museum has borrowed pieces from other institutions for this exhibit, including the Denver Public

Library, Colorado State University in Fort Collins, and the Wyoming State Museum in Cheyenne. We are excited to provide this rare opportunity to view so many of Caspar's drawings, "re-united" as it were, here at the fort named in his honor.

This exhibit will be on view November 21 thru November 2015.

"Platte Bridge Station" by Caspar Collins, Denver Public Library



## FCMA Field Trip Tabled; Murder Mystery Planned

Unfortunately, the Fort Caspar Museum Association has had to postpone—perhaps indefinitely—a planned field trip for our members. We were unable to find an affordable means of transportation, but we will keep looking.

In the works is a "Murder Mystery Evening" fundraiser for the FCMA, which we hope to present early next year. More details to come!

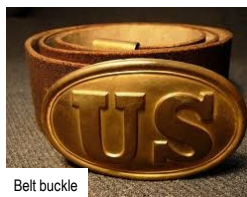
## Outfitting the Soldiers of Historic Fort Casper

*Dressed for Battle* is the companion exhibit to Caspar Collins' artwork. It will provide examples of how soldiers stationed at Platte Bridge Station—later Fort Casper—were equipped.

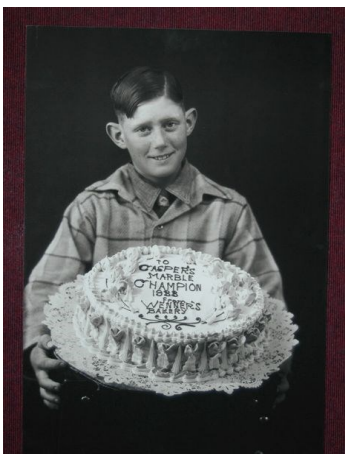
Focusing on one Cavalry and one Infantry soldier, visitors will learn about the different kinds of uniforms, equipment, and

firearms each would have been issued by the Union army. There will be examples of footwear and headgear, a sabre, haversacks, cartridge pouches, etc. Also learn about the kinds of items the men would have carried for their own personal use and enjoyment, such as small games, musical instruments, and grooming accessories.

This exhibit will be on view November 21 thru November 2015.



Belt buckle



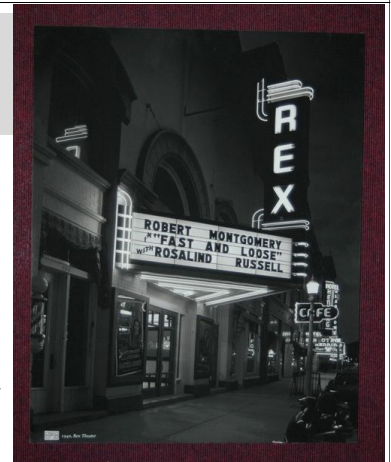
From the Casper Tribune, Marble Champ, 1933

## Carrigen Photos Capture Casper & Its Residents

Tom Carrigen is arguably Casper's most famous photographer. His body of work is a precious time capsule of the city and its residents during the first half of the 20th century.

*A View from Center Street: Tom Carrigen's Casper* will remain on view now thru February 7, 2015.

Rex Theatre (1925-57), Center Street, 1940



*Thank you to the Members of the Fort Caspar Museum Association! The **FCMA** supports much of our programming. Call the Museum for membership information: 307-235-8462*

**Fort Caspar Museum**  
**4001 Fort Caspar Rd**  
**Casper, WY 82604**  
**307-235-8462**



[www.fortcasparwyoming.com](http://www.fortcasparwyoming.com)

### **2014 Ghost Tours a Big Success**

Fort Caspar Museum partnered with the Casper Area Paranormal Seekers (CAPS) on October 24th & 25th to give nighttime tours of the fort buildings using paranormal detecting equipment. This event sold out two weeks in advance: that's 240 participants! Thank you, CAPS.

## **Mission:**

Fort Caspar Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits materials related to the history of Fort Caspar, the City of Casper, Natrona County, and central Wyoming.

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## **Hours of Operation:**

**October - April:** Tuesday thru Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm

**May & September:** Daily, 8 am to 5 pm

**June - August:** Daily, 8 am to 6 pm

## **Fort Caspar Museum Events Calendar—Fall/Winter 2015**

- Nov 1 Exhibit CLOSING: *Cabinet of Curiosities*
- Nov 8 ***Casper USO Show*** at Nerd Gas Hangar, 6-11pm, *ticketed event*; **buy tickets no later than noon, Nov. 4th** at Fort Caspar Museum, Veterans Museum, & ARTCORE outlets.
- Nov 21 Exhibits OPEN: *The Artwork of Caspar Collins* and *Dressed for Battle*
- Nov 22 No Fremont Family Funday in November
- Nov 27 & 28 Museum CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 29 Museum OPEN 8-5pm: skip the mall crowds & do some Christmas shopping here!
- Dec 5 *Candlelight Christmas at the Fort #1*, 5:30-8:30pm—FREE Event**
- Dec 6 *Candlelight Christmas at the Fort #2*, 5:30-8:30pm—FREE Event**
- Dec 25-26 Museum CLOSED
- Dec 27 Museum OPEN 8-5pm—Bring your out-of-town visitors!
- Dec 27 NO Fremont Family Funday in December: FFF resumes January 24
- Jan 1-2 Museum CLOSED
- Jan 3 Museum OPEN 8-5 pm
- Jan 24 Fremont Family Funday: 1-3pm; topic TBD
- Feb 6 "Date Night at the Museums: *Valentine Edition*:" ticketed event; locations TBD
- Feb 28 Fremont Family Funday: 1-3pm; topic TBD
- March 28 Fremont Family Funday: 1-3pm; topic TBD
- April 25 Fremont Family Funday: 1-3pm; topic TBD
- July 24-26 *2015 Caspar Collins Days: The 150th Anniversary Celebration*—mark your calendars!**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MUSEUM!**



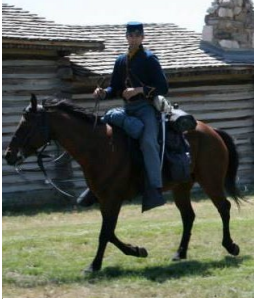


**Fort Caspar Museum**  
 4001 Fort Caspar Rd  
 Casper, WY 82604

**We're on the Web**  
[www.fortcasparwyoming.com](http://www.fortcasparwyoming.com)

**We're on Facebook too!**  
[www.facebook.com/fortcasparmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/fortcasparmuseum)  
 & [www.facebook.com/fremontferret](http://www.facebook.com/fremontferret)

## 2015 Caspar Collins Days: The 150th Anniversary



Steve Dacus demonstrates mounted Cavalry drills at Fort Caspar.

Hopefully many of you were able to attend *Caspar Collins Day 2014* last July. It was a great success, with attendance exceeding 1,500 visitors! Now the big push is on to make next year's *Caspar Collins Days: The 150th Anniversary* the biggest event in Wyoming in 2015.

Fundraising efforts continue. The 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry reenacting group organized a

5K history walk on September 20th to raise funds and awareness, and they held a raffle for a midnight Ghost Hunt at the Fort on October 25th.

If you would like to know more and/or would like to help the fundraising effort, please go to [www/fortcaspar.com](http://www.fortcaspar.com), or contact Steve Dacus at 307-262-1725 or [steved@caspersafety.com](mailto:steved@caspersafety.com).

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either Fort Caspar Museum, the WY Veterans Museum, or ARTCORE ticket outlets.

This promises to be a spectacular evening. Please plan to join us for this unique and highly entertaining experience! Seating is limited, so reserve your tickets now (or at least by Nov. 4th!!).

A big thank you to all of our sponsors who have enabled us through their financial generosity to bring this event and these performers to Casper. Major sponsors include Broker One, Knife River, McMurry Foundation, Pepsi, and the City of Casper.

